

**MAJORITY**

VERNON J. EHLERS, MICHIGAN,  
CHAIRMAN

ROBERT W. NEY, OHIO  
JOHN L. MICA, FLORIDA  
JOHN T. DOOLITTLE, CALIFORNIA  
THOMAS M. REYNOLDS, NEW YORK  
CANDICE S. MILLER, MICHIGAN

WILLIAM PLASTER,  
STAFF DIRECTOR

## U.S. House of Representatives

### COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

(202) 225-8281

[www.cha.house.gov](http://www.cha.house.gov)

May 16, 2006

**MINORITY**

JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD, CALIFORNIA  
RANKING MEMBER

ROBERT A. BRADY, PENNSYLVANIA  
ZOE LOFGREN, CALIFORNIA

GEORGE F. SHEVLIN,  
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

Dear Colleague:

I would like to bring to your attention a recent letter from the National Conference of State Legislatures in support of my legislation, H.R. 4140, the "Ensuring Ballot Access for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Victims Act of 2005."

H.R. 4140 would authorize the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to provide up to \$50 million in grants to the states affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. These grants are not a blank check. States would have to submit detailed plans to EAC in order to receive funding to:

- ⇒ Re-establish voter registration lists;
- ⇒ Reconstruct destroyed polling stations;
- ⇒ Make polling places fully accessible to those with disabilities; and
- ⇒ Restore and replace supplies, materials, and equipment used in the administration of elections which were damaged as a result of these devastating storms.

The Senate passed bipartisan companion legislation by unanimous consent in February. Now is the time for the House to act to ensure that affected states are able to hold transparent and accountable elections.

I urge you to read this letter of support and join me in protecting the rights of the Katrina and Rita survivors by becoming a cosponsor of H.R. 4140. If you have any questions or would like to become a cosponsor, please contact me or my elections counsel, Thomas Hicks, at 225-2061.

All the best,



Juanita Millender-McDonald  
Ranking Member



NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

*The Forum for America's Ideas*

March 28, 2006

The Honorable Dennis Hastert  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Steven J. Rauschenberger  
*Assistant Senate Republican Leader  
Illinois  
President, NCSL*

Susan Clarke Schaar  
*Clerk of the Senate  
Virginia  
Staff Chair, NCSL*

William T. Pound  
*Executive Director*

**RE: H.R. 4140, the "Ensuring Ballot Access for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Victims Act of 2005"**

Dear Speaker Hastert and Congresswoman Pelosi:

I am writing to you on behalf of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) to urge your support for H.R. 4140, the "Ensuring Ballot Access for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Victims Act of 2005." This bill would provide much-needed assistance for states impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to replenish various supplies, materials and equipment that were destroyed by those hurricanes. H.R. 4140 authorizes \$50,000,000 in grants to states and calls upon the Election Assistance Commission to award these grants upon state certification of hurricane-related damages. By providing this assistance to the hurricane impacted states, these states can begin to rebuild voter databases and records vital to ensuring full and fair elections. The process of rebuilding in these states is a complex and lengthy one, but with legislation like H.R. 4140, these states can be assured a good start.

Thank you for supporting this bill. For further information or questions, please contact NCSL staff Susan Parnas Frederick at (202)624-3566 or by email at [susan.frederick@ncsl.org](mailto:susan.frederick@ncsl.org).

Sincerely,

William T. Pound  
Executive Director, National Conference of State Legislatures

CC: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

**Denver**  
7700 East First Place  
Denver, Colorado 80230  
Phone 303.364.7700 Fax 303.364.7800

**Washington**  
444 North Capitol Street, N.W. Suite 515  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Phone 202.624.5400 Fax 202.737.1069

Website [www.ncsl.org](http://www.ncsl.org)